

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A hardware driver install system used in conjunction with a computer
- 2 system, said install system apparatus comprising:
- 3 means for determining if the hardware device is connected to the computer
- 4 system;
- 5 means for instructing a user to connect the hardware device if it is determined
- 6 that the hardware device is not connected to the computer system; and
- 7 means for installing a driver for the hardware device if it is determined that the
- 8 hardware device is connected to the computer system.

- 1 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 means for determining if a default driver exists for the hardware device.

- 1 3. The system of claim 2, further comprising:
- 2 means for replacing the default driver with the driver for the hardware device if
- 3 it is determined that the hardware device is connected to the computer system .

- 1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the installing means further comprises:
- 2 means for acquiring the driver from a network source.

1 5. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for determining if there are a plurality of hardware devices connected to
3 the computer system.

1 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for determining which of the plurality of hardware devices connected to
3 the computer system are to be removed.

1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein said plurality of hardware devices
2 determining means further comprises:
3 means for removing the plurality of hardware devices from a device object that
4 are determined to be removed; and
5 means for removing any shortcut for the plurality of hardware devices that are
6 determined to be removed from the computer system.

1 8. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 means for using a default install system of an operating system for the computer
3 system when installing the driver for the hardware device.

1 9. A method for installing a driver for a hardware device on a computer
2 system, the method comprising:
3 determining if the hardware device is connected to the computer system;
4 instructing a user to connect the hardware device if it is determined that the
5 hardware device is not connected to the computer system; and
6 installing the driver for the hardware device if it is determined that the hardware
7 device is connected to the computer system.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the installing step further comprises:
2 determining if a default driver exists for the hardware device.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the installing step further comprises:
2 replacing the default driver with the driver for the hardware device if it is
3 determined that the hardware device is connected to the computer system.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the installing step further comprises:
2 acquiring the driver from a network source.

1 13. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
2 determining if there are a plurality of device instances are connected to the
3 computer system.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of hardware devices
2 determining step further comprises the step of:
3 determining which of the plurality of device instances connected to the computer
4 system are to be removed.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 removing the plurality of hardware devices from a device object that are
3 determined to be removed; and
4 removing any shortcut for the plurality of hardware devices that are determined
5 to be removed from the computer system.

1 16. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
2 using a default install system of an operating system on the computer system for
3 installing the driver for the hardware device.

1 17. A method for installing a driver for a hardware device on a computer
2 system, the method comprising:
3 determining if the hardware device is connected to the computer system;
4 determining if a default driver for the hardware device exists on the computer
5 system if it is determined that the hardware device is connected to the computer
6 system; and
7 replacing the default driver with the driver for the hardware device if it is
8 determined that the default driver for the hardware device exists on the computer
9 system.

1 18. A method for installing a driver for a hardware device on a computer
2 system, the method comprising:
3 determining if the hardware device is connected to the computer system;
4 instructing a user to connect the hardware device if it is determined that the
5 hardware device is not connected to the computer system; and
6 installing the driver for the hardware device after the hardware device is
7 connected to the computer system.

1 19. A computer readable medium for a hardware driver install system,
2 comprising:
3 logic for determining if the hardware device is connected to the computer
4 system;
5 logic for instructing a user to connect the hardware device if it is determined
6 that the hardware device is not connected to the computer system; and
7 logic for installing the driver for the hardware device if it is determined that
8 the hardware device is connected to the computer system.

1 20. The computer readable medium of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic for determining if a default driver exists for the hardware device.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 20, further comprising:
2 logic for replacing the default driver with the driver for the hardware device if it
3 is determined that the hardware device is connected to the computer system.

1 22. The computer readable medium of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic for determining if there are a plurality of hardware devices connected to
3 the computer system.

1 23. The computer readable medium of claim 22, further comprising:
2 logic for determining which of the plurality of hardware devices connected to
3 the computer system are to be removed.

1 24. The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising:
2 logic for removing the plurality of hardware devices from a device object that
3 are determined to be removed; and
4 logic for removing any shortcut for the plurality of hardware devices that are
5 determined to be removed from the computer system.

1 25. The computer readable medium of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic for acquiring the driver from a network source.

1 26. The computer readable medium of claim 19, further comprising:
2 logic for using a default install system of an operating system on the computer
3 system for installing the driver for the hardware device.

1 27. A hardware driver install system on a computer system, the install
 2 system apparatus comprising:
 3 a decision mechanism that determines if the hardware device is connected to the
 4 computer system;
 5 a user interface that instructs a user to connect the hardware device if it is
 6 determined that the hardware device is not connected to the computer system; and
 7 a driver installer that installs a driver for the hardware device if it is determined
 8 that the hardware device is connected to the computer system.

1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the decision mechanism further
 2 comprises:
 3 logic configured to determine if a default driver exists for the hardware device.

1 29. The system of claim 28, wherein the driver installer further comprises:
 2 logic configured to replace the default driver with the driver for the hardware
 3 device if it is determined that the hardware device is connected to the computer system.

1 30. The system of claim 27, wherein the decision mechanism further
 2 comprises:
 3 logic configured to determine if there are a plurality of hardware devices
 4 connected to the computer system.

1 31. The system of claim 30, wherein the decision mechanism further
2 comprises:
3 logic configured to determine which of the plurality of hardware devices
4 connected to the computer system are to be removed.

1 32. The system of claim 31, wherein the decision mechanism further
2 comprises:
3 logic configured to remove the plurality of hardware devices from a device
4 object that are determined to be removed; and
5 logic configured to remove any shortcut for the plurality of hardware devices
6 that are determined to be removed from the computer system.

1 33. The system of claim 27, wherein the driver installer further comprises:
2 logic configured to utilize a default install system of an operating system for the
3 computer system.

1 34. The system of claim 27, wherein the driver installer further comprises:
2 logic configured to acquire the driver from a network source.